

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

14 MARCH 1961

~~TOP SECRET~~

1. Cuba

a.

photography revealed no significant change at Soviet military installations.

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50X1

b.

the sighting of Soviet troop convoys on the roads near the ports.

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2. Cannaregio

a. Suspicious behavior of the Cannaregio on Tuesday [redacted]

[redacted] enters Venezuelan waters today.

b. The vessel suddenly weighed anchor Tuesday and proceeded at top speed northward out of the Gulf of Paria. When closed by a Venezuelan destroyer, she doubled back and anchored again. Barges and "much activity" were seen alongside shortly afterward.

c. She got underway again early yesterday morning, and is now approaching the Venezuelan coast [redacted]

3. USSR

a. A highly unusual meeting took place in Moscow yesterday, with Khrushchev in the chair. It was in effect a meeting of all the top political and administrative brass in the country.

b. The result of the meeting was the creation of a Supreme Council of National Economy "to guide and consolidate the work of the national planning agencies and the industrial and construction committees."

(Cont'd)

c. Dmitry F. Ustinov was selected to head the new super-powered overseeing agency and promoted to deputy premier, making him one of three along with Mikoyan and Kosygin.

d. Ustinov's entire career has been in armament industries, including, in recent years, missiles. (He ran the Soviet armament industries during World War II.)

e. Although his appointment at this extraordinary meeting could indicate a greater emphasis on military production, it is also possible that Ustinov's performance in armaments has made him the logical choice to implement greater administrative centralization for the whole Soviet economy.

4. France

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5. Indonesia-Stanvac-Caltex
- a. Djakarta has given Western oil companies in Indonesia a deadline of 24 March to meet the government's contract terms.
 - b. Among other things, these terms would in practice alter the proposed profit split from 60-40 in favor of Indonesia to 70-30 or less.
 - c. The UN oil adviser in Indonesia believes there is no immediate threat that Indonesia will nationalize the companies' properties. He considers that if the companies agree to an Indonesian takeover of distribution facilities in five years and of refineries in 15 years, the government will compromise on other issues.

6. UAR-Yemen-
Saudi Arabia

a. [redacted]
[redacted] an Egyptian MIG and an Ilyushin
bombed three locations north of the
Yemeni border on 12 March.

b. So far there has been no
complaint on publicity from Saudi
officials. [redacted]
[redacted]

c. Meanwhile, Egypt is continu-
ing contingency preparations, pos-
sibly for other air or naval attacks
on towns in the central or northern
sector of the Saudi Red Sea coast.
[redacted]

d. The Saudi Arabians are
still building up supplies of light
arms and ammunition in the border
towns. [redacted]
[redacted]

e. Yemen, meanwhile, has re-
ceived five more helicopters and
two trainer aircraft from the USSR,
and a Czech military delegation is
to arrive in Yemen this week to
survey other Yemeni requirements.
[redacted]

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NOTES

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- B. Costa Rica Honduran President Ramon Villeda Morales will have a prominent pro-Communist-- Francisco Lagos--as one of two public relations men in his delegation at the San José meeting. Lagos was ousted for pro-Communist activity from a job at Honduras University last summer. His subsequent appointment as Public Relations Director in the Honduran Civil Guard is an example of Villeda's policy of tolerating local pro-Communists while condemning international communism.
- C. USSR There has been no stampede by ranking intellectuals to confess their errors in the wake of Khrushchev's speech which last Friday froze up the cultural thaw. Words of praise for the speech continue to fill the press, but they come from notorious party hacks and third rate nobodies. With the exception of bland praise from writer Konstantin Simonov and from Shostakovich, top flight artists have kept mum.
- D. West Germany - Bloc West Germany and Poland both apparently expect their newly-established trade missions will eventually handle cultural and consular affairs between the two states. The West Germans hope others can be encouraged to work out the same kind of arrangement with them. Hungary is considered a good prospect for the near future.

(Cont'd)

- E. USSR Khrushchev has appeared to recent visitors to be tired and preoccupied. He has told the Indonesian Ambassador he will leave for the Black Sea at the end of the week--his first extended leave since late last summer.
- F. Argentina Police and army personnel in the greater Buenos Aires area were put on special alert late last night, apparently as a precaution against any possible disturbances by forces opposed to recognition of the Peronist Popular Union Party.
- G. Iraq The government is taking no chances on being caught short by renewed Kurdish attacks in the event further talks with Barzani break down. Two infantry battalions, a tank regiment, and a mechanized regiment are moving north from Baghdad toward the Kurdish region. Bombers are also reported to have been flown to the area.
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